

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention is directed towards an improved flexible hose (10). The hose (10) is comprised of at least a flexible material (28) and a reinforcing rod (12) positioned externally of the flexible material (28). Terminal ends (16, 18) define both the flexible material (28) and  
5 the reinforcing rod (12). At least one terminal end (16) of the reinforcing rod (12) is located short of the terminal ends (18) of the flexible material (28), so that the non-reinforced end of the flexible material (28) forms a soft cuff (20) adapted to be received by a hose fitting. Also disclosed is an improved method of manufacturing the flexible hose (10).